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TOP MARKS FOR SCHOOL

Results just keep on getting better, year on year

By Samantha McGregor

A SECONDARY school in Banbury is celebrating after new figures show it is in the top 30 "most improved" in the country.

Just over three years ago only 25 per cent of students at North Oxfordshire Academy, in Drayton Road, achieved five or more A* to C GCSEs, including English and maths.

But in the latest results for 2012, 59 per cent of youngsters made the grade, up from 49 per cent in 2011 and 38 per cent in 2010.

Overall, 93 per cent of students achieved five A* to C GCSE grades.

The improvements have put the school 27th "most improved" in the country.

Formerly Drayton School, 966-place North Oxfordshire Academy was the county's first academy in 2007.

Sara Billins, who took on the headship in November 2011, said the school's achievements had been worth all the "blood, sweat and tears".

She said: "Our 2012 results are a significant improvement on those achieved in 2011 and are a massive 21 percentage points higher than those achieved in 2010."

"These results, which show that North Oxfordshire Academy continues to make huge strides forward, are testament to our incredibly hard-working and committed students and staff."

"As a team, we all look forward to continuing and accelerating the progress which has been made. It makes a huge difference to the community and to the children."

"It's hard work, but worth every bit of the blood, sweat and tears."

"There is no magic formula. If there were, everyone would be doing it."

"It's just about relentless consistency, high expectations and never letting the bar slip."

She said strict rules had been implemented in school covering uniform, attendance, punctuality and behaviour,



Principal Sara Billins is pictured with students Amy Reynolds, Ruth Draper, Kieran Martin, Harley Lord, Hannah Jault and Alex Wilton OX57048

which were constantly enforced.

On the teaching side, the school said it worked hard to recruit and train the right staff and had teamed up with Oxford University to take on its "high level" teaching graduates.

Mrs Billins said one of the biggest challenges was raising students' aspiration.

She said: "It's not only the students but the community as well and how the school is perceived by the community."

But more students were now going on to university or joining apprenticeship schemes, supported by the school and local businesses.

Town, district and county councillor Ann Bonner was "delighted". She said: "It's down to the hard work and commitment of the pupils and the staff. I could not be more pleased. It's fantastic news for the area."

Andy Buck, managing director of academies for United Learning Trust, which runs the school, said: "Each year North Oxfordshire Academy's results have outperformed those of the year before and show that the academy is making huge strides forward."

"The excellent progress made is testament

to the hard work and commitment of the fantastic students and staff, who are so ably led by Sara Billins."

● In 2010 the school received a glowing report by Ofsted, giving it a "satisfactory" overall rating.

But it was also rated "good" in the all-important "capacity for sustained improvement" category – a key indicator of how well schools are doing long term.

● GCSE and A-Level tables, Page 2

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GCSE RESULTS

SCHOOL	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Banbury School	199	49	12	27	49	78	16	70	83	345.3
Blessed George Napier	139	64	23	27	65	80	50	79	94	354.9
Bloxham School	66	85	39	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	366.4
Chipping Norton School	160	46	27	21	42	82	17	61	84	326.0
The King's School	17	82	29	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	367.0
North Oxfordshire Academy	136	59	10	48	82	86	28	73	71	357.5
Sibford School	54	50	6	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	357.7
The Warriner School	223	66	16	41	64	84	29	83	95	340.0
Frank Wise School	8	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
OXFORDSHIRE	6006	57.9	20.6	38.9	61.5	84.1	27.1	72.5	90.7	336.8



Education chief's 'disappointment'

THE woman in charge of Oxfordshire's education has warned it will take longer than a year to see improvements in results.

Last Thursday, the Department for Education released figures that showed GCSE results in Oxfordshire secondary schools remained below the national average for a second year.

Only 57.9 per cent of pupils achieved five A* to C grades at GCSE in Oxfordshire, compared to 58.8 per cent in England.

That marks an improvement of 0.5 of a percentage point compared to 2011, while results nationally rose by 0.6 percentage points.

Oxfordshire County Council

By Fran Bardsley

education cabinet member Melinda Tilley described the results as "a disappointment".

But she said: "It takes a bit longer than one year to turn it round.

"We are seeing improvements, but it is slow, far slower than I would like it to be."

She said she would like to increase the budget for the school improvement team, which sends experienced staff into schools to help drive up standards, but admitted she did not know where she would find the money.

The average point score of pupils was also below the

national average, with youngsters racking up on average 336.8 points in Oxfordshire compared to 343.3 nationwide.

Last year, for the first time, the Government published data showing how well pupils did compared to their previous attainment.

The proportion of pupils who came to secondary school with low attainment, achieving five A* to Cs including English and maths, remained the same as 2011, at 5.5 per cent, and at nine secondaries, no pupils achieved the grade.

Education expert John Howson pointed out that if you looked at data from 2006 to 2012, while the proportion of children in England achieving

the benchmark level rose from 44.1 per cent to 59 per cent, those making the grade in Oxfordshire rose from 47.5 to 57.9 per cent.

He said: "We were ahead and we are now behind.

"The rest of the country has taken on board the message that they needed to sharpen up their education system – and Oxfordshire has not."

But he agreed it would take longer for improvements to start filtering through.

There was some good news, with more than one in five children achieving the English Baccalaureate, getting C grades or higher in English, maths, science, a language and history or geography.

That was an increase on last year's figure of 18.8 per cent, and exceeded the national figure of 16.2 per cent.

In all, 6,006 Oxfordshire children sat GCSE exams last summer.

A-LEVEL RESULTS

SCHOOL/COLLEGE	A	B	C
Banbury School	96	738.7	33
Blessed George Napier Catholic School	53	828.1	16
Bloxham School	65	728.3	36
Chipping Norton School	74	750	30
Fitzharrys School	63	759.3	27
North Oxfordshire Academy	NE	612.4	46
Sibford School	29	694.4	44
St Birinus School	69	720	39
St Gregory the Great VA Catholic School	63	676.9	45
OXFORDSHIRE		703.3	

A quarter of students in the UK fail to make the grade

NATIONALLY, one in four schools and colleges fail to ensure students score the A-Level grades often required by top universities, new league tables suggest.

And tens of thousands of youngsters are still attending under-performing schools that are failing to meet tough targets on the numbers of pupils gaining decent GCSEs.

In total, 195 schools in England, collectively teaching around 167,000 children, are falling below the Government's new floor target for secondaries, the figures show.

This means that less than 40 per cent of their pupils are gaining at least five GCSEs at grade C or higher, including English and maths, and students are not making good enough progress in these two core subjects.

The new tables are based on data provided by the Department for Education and show how every school and college in England performed at GCSE and A-Level in 2012.

For the first time, the Government has published figures on the numbers of pupils at each school or college that are scoring at

least two A grades and a B at A-Level in "facilitating" subjects, including English literature, physics, biology, chemistry, geography, history and languages.

These are subjects either preferred or required by Russell Group universities, which are considered among the top institutions in the UK, including Oxford University.

An initial analysis of the latest statistics suggests that at around 600 schools and colleges out of more than 2,000, no A-Level student scored AAB in facilitating subjects.

THE KEY

GCSEs

- A:** Number of pupils sitting exams
- B:** Percentage achieving five A* to C including English and maths
- C:** Percent achieving English Baccalaureate
- D:** Percentage of pupils with low prior attainment making the expected level of progress between Key Stage 2 and GCSE in English
- E:** Percentage of pupils with middle prior attainment making the expected level of progress between Key Stage 2 and GCSE in English
- F:** Percentage of pupils with high prior attainment making the expected level of progress between Key Stage 2 and GCSE in English
- G:** Percentage of pupils with low prior attainment making the expected level of progress between Key Stage 2 and GCSE in maths
- H:** Percentage of pupils with

- middle prior attainment making the expected level of progress between Key Stage 2 and GCSE in maths
- I:** Percentage of pupils with high prior attainment making the expected level of progress between Key Stage 2 and GCSE in maths
- J:** Average points per pupil, capped at the results for eight best GCSEs

A-LEVELS

- A:** Number of pupils sitting A-Level
- B:** Average points score (A* is 300, A is 270, B is 240, C is 210, D is 180 and E is 150)
- C:** Oxfordshire rank

ABBREVIATIONS

- SUPP:** Figures suppressed as they refer to fewer than five pupils
- NA:** Not available
- NE:** No GCSE or equivalent entries
- NP:** Not published

Schools may break the 30-pupil barrier as intake figures soar

Places crisis may lead to bigger class sizes



Education expert John Howson

The cash

THE county council has a budget of £34m to spend on extra school places, 48 per cent of which is earmarked for Oxford city.

Of the total money, about £20m will be for new places in September 2011, 2012 and 2013.

The rest will be for further capital projects as children progress through primary school.

Schools are funded per pupil.

The county council also has a new classes fund which can make an additional allocation to classes for pupils admitted to reception.

The law around class sizes

NATIONAL legislation allows primary school classes to exceed 30 pupils per teacher in exceptional circumstances up until the end of the Key Stage One stage.

Exceptions include children admitted outside the normal admissions round with statements of special educational needs specifying a school, children of UK service personnel and children from multiple births.

Classes with children classified as "exceptions" would not require extra staff, but classes with more than 30 pupils where that is not the case would need extra teaching provision, according to Oxfordshire County Council spokesman Marcus Maberley.

SCHOOL class sizes in Oxfordshire could be expanded to deal with the squeeze on places.

More than 20 Oxfordshire schools are set to take extra pupils this year to help deal with the huge increase in the number of school-age children.

A total of 113 new places are being created, plus a further 179 at schools that have already taken children over their planned capacity.

But Oxfordshire County Council education chief Melinda Tilley has admitted it still probably will not be enough to provide places for every child in the right areas.

She said in some cases that might mean classes of more than 30 pupils in "exceptional circumstances" for a single period of one year.

She said: "That's something we are having to look at."

Last year there were four schools with classes of 31 pupils.

Mrs Tilley said: "We don't do it if we can possibly avoid it. We are talking about one possibly, two rarely."

"Whenever we have done it, there has been movement within the year and the class has gone back to 30 again."

Education expert John Howson warned that increasing class sizes, even by one or two pupils, could have a detrimental effect on pupils' education.

He said: "If it is a classroom that has been built since the structure was introduced, it will not have the physical capacity in most cases for more pupils."

"As class sizes get bigger, it becomes more difficult to identify children with additional needs." Two

By Fran Bardsley

new free schools are due to open in September 2013, including Heyford Park Free School,.

Mrs Tilley said: "We are working with everybody to get enough places. It is a problem – but we will get enough places."

She said the authority was in early discussions with about a dozen schools across Oxfordshire, but particularly in the Banbury, Oxford and Abingdon areas, about taking extra pupils.

There were 7,724 applications for places in September 2012, an increase of about 500 on the previous year.

A further 200 on top of that are expected for next September's intake.

While there are more places than pupils in the county, in certain areas the number of applications exceeds the available places.

Eighteen schools took extra children last September, while five dropped their admission numbers, making a net gain of 184 school places.

InBRIEF

Man on child sex charges

■ A MAN has gone on trial at Oxford Crown Court accused of child sex abuse and rape. David Manning, of Forgeway, Banbury, has been charged with two counts of sexual abuse and eight counts of rape, relating to a child who cannot be named for legal reasons. He also faces two counts of sexually abusing another child, who also cannot be named. The 45-year-old denies the charges, which are alleged to have taken place between 2009 and 2011. The trial began on Monday is expected to last until tomorrow.

Sex attack

■ A WOMAN was seriously sexually assaulted in Pepper Alley, Banbury, last Thursday morning. A second incident in the same alleyway later the same day is being treated by police as unconnected.

Tyres attack

■ A VANDAL slashed the tyres of a vehicle parked in the Bretch Hill area. The vehicle was attacked in Dover Avenue between Friday and Saturday, January 18, 19.

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Alert over new changes to village green laws

VILLAGES and towns in Oxfordshire are being called to register their greens before new laws come into effect.

The Open Spaces Society has made the last-minute appeal to communities to apply to register land as town or village greens.

It claims the Government's Growth and Infrastructure Bill, currently in the House of Lords, "emasculates" this process by giving more power to developers.

Kate Ashbrook, general secretary of the society, said: "Although we are fighting these proposals, along with many other organisations and individuals, we must prepare for the worst."

"The Bill could become law within three months, and then it will be too late to save the land we love."

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■ Leader of the town council tracks down a missing heirloom

Historic gavel returns to its rightful owners

By Oliver Evans

ORDER! An historic gavel is set to give Banbury Town Mayor Tony Illott some extra clout after being returned following a 39-year absence.

Council leader Kieron Mallon tracked down the wooden hammer and block after it was lost in a local government shake-up in the 1970s.

It was given to the former Banbury Borough Council in 1962 by ex-borough surveyor Sidney Hilton on behalf of the Banbury branch of the National Association of Local Government Officers.

It then passed to Cherwell District Council, when it was formed as part of an influx of new councils in 1974 to take over services for the town.

Yet it has now been re-discovered, locked away in the district council's offices in Bodicote House and was returned to the town council last week.

Mr Mallon said: "It was brought to my attention that the gavel and block were gathering dust in a Cherwell District Council cupboard.

District Council in 1974 because none of the other councils involved had any money – so it's nice to get something back."

Mr Illott used the gavel to close a meeting last week and

told the *Banbury Cake*: "Generally speaking, we are a friendly bunch and I don't anticipate using the gavel hardly at all."

Mr Hilton was the borough engineer, surveyor and architect

from 1925 to 1955 and designed the town's Woodgreen outdoor swimming pool.

Hilton Road is named after him and he was awarded the Freedom of the Borough in December 1955.



Town mayor Tony Illott tries out the historic gavel, with the help of mace bearer Terry Cox and the leader of the council, Kieron Mallon

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Pupils get lessons on 'thinking'

BANBURY schoolchildren have been working on their "thinking skills" at a two-day workshop, organised by car manufacturer Honda.

The "School of Dreams" event was held at Banbury Academy and as well as pupils from the academy, children from neighbouring primary schools were also invited to attend.

Youngsters, aged nine to 13, were encouraged to think about pursuing their dreams and were shown strategies to help turn dreams into reality.

That included teaching the children how to juggle — the idea being that even though you drop the balls at first, you learn through your mistakes.

The workshop was supported by FN Pile and Sons, based in Warrington, and staff from the company took part alongside pupils and teachers.

Floods warning as heavy rain looms

FAMILIES in Oxfordshire have been warned that they face a third bout of serious flooding, with half the month's rainfall expected this week.

Up to 30mm of rainfall was expected to fall across the county over the next few days, when all of January would normally see just 60mm.

The Environment Agency has warned that with river levels high and the ground saturated from previous heavy downpours and melting snow, flooding is a real risk.

Environment Agency spokesman Dave Ferguson said: "If we are talking about property flooding, yes there is a risk with the heavy rainfall."

"That rainfall will affect the rivers and the tributaries of the Thames."

"People need to be alert and be aware of their risk and take appropriate action."

"A lot of the rainfall we had at the end of last year means the ground is still very wet and the rivers are high in some places."

The rainfall is expected to get heavier towards the end of the week, with the most intense downpours expected tomorrow.

As the *Banbury Cake* went to press, there were 16 Oxfordshire waterways on Flood Alert, meaning flooding was possible.

A widespread thaw of snow has also contributed to the flood risk. A further deluge would be the latest in a series of weather-related blows for the county, which saw major flooding at the end of November and in the days before Christmas.

Mr Ferguson said it was difficult to say whether residents would see a repeat of the flooding in November and December, when there were several showers of sustained heavy rainfall of 20mm to 30mm.

Met forecaster Charlie Powell said tomorrow's rain could be as much as 10mm to 15mm of rain in a 24-hour period.

He said: "There is fairly wet and windy weather to come."

Jobless figures on the rise

THE county's jobless figure has risen unexpectedly, with experts fearing the dole queue could swell further with the recent raft of retailers going to the wall.

According to latest figures for December from the Office for National Statistics, there are 6,562 people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance in Oxfordshire, a rise of 115 on the previous month.

It is the highest total since September and the first time the number signing on has risen since last February, bucking the national trend.

The figures were released after the closure of retailers Comet and Jessops and others such as HMV and Blockbuster.

Nationally, numbers claiming jobseeker's allowance fell by 12,100 last month to 1.56m.

Fears as more potholes appear after spate of floods, ice and snow



One of the county's potholes – lying in wait

Roads crumble as repair budget cuts are looming

THE number of potholes repaired in Oxfordshire has more than tripled in five years.

Experts have predicted that roads across the county would crumble further over the next few weeks due to the recent floods, ice and snow.

It comes just weeks after transport bosses announced plans to cut more than £1m from the road maintenance budget.

In 2008/09, highways officials repaired 8,902 potholes.

This has steadily increased year-on-year and now Oxfordshire Council Council expects to fix 32,000 potholes this year.

Local taxi driver Colin Dobson said that potholes in Oxfordshire had got much worse over the past few years.

He said: "The road surface in certain places is breaking up in front of people's eyes."

By Freddie Whitaker

"I feel that the tax taken from all drivers, but especially small businesses, is high enough to justify sustaining the same level of repairs."

Mr Dobson said he feared the road surfaces would get worse over the next few weeks as roads thawed out after the cold snap and recent flooding.

County council opposition highways spokesman Alan Armitage said he had concerns about the quality of the repairs.

Mr Armitage said: "Our experience is that quite a lot of repaired potholes open up again more quickly than they should."

"This is because they are patching rather than resurfacing. And it's also because of the materials they are using."

He also raised concerns over the

planned £1.01m reduction in the road maintenance budget between 2015 and 2017.

Mr Armitage said: "It defies logic that they're saying they are repairing more potholes but they're going to cut the budget."

The AA's head of roads policy, Paul Watters, said: "You've had the worst possible combination of conditions. It's been wet, it's been freezing and it's been snowing. Drivers are going to have to be really careful."

Over the past five years, the council has paid out £283,493 in compensation to drivers whose cars were damaged by the county's roads.

There was a sharp spike in the number of claims between 2009 and 2011.

Across the five years, the average pay-outs were broadly similar, ranging from £283 to £306.

InBRIEF

Estate plans go on show

■ A PUBLIC exhibition, showing plans for 60 new homes in Bloxham, is due to open tomorrow. Miller Homes wants to build the properties in Tadmarton Road. The exhibition will be held in Jubilee Park Hall, from 3pm to 9pm, and on Saturday from 10am to 3pm. Spokesman Andy Evans said: "We believe that our site is a far more suitable and sustainable option, which would help meet the current housing land shortfall."

Parts stolen

■ THIEVES took an exhaust system and catalytic converter from a vehicle parked in Bramber Close, Banbury, between Friday, January 18, and the following Monday. Call police on 101 with any information.

Vacancy

■ A VACANCY has arisen on King's Sutton Parish Council. People, aged 18 and over, can apply by contacting 01295 811241.

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We greatly value the input of local residents and take our commitment to meaningful consultation extremely seriously. We appreciate local views over recent planning applications; however, we believe that our site offers a more suitable and sustainable location for delivering housing growth whilst also providing material benefits for the local community.



The exhibition will ensure that the local community has the opportunity to view the initial proposals for Tadmarton Road and provide feedback that will influence the final scheme. Members of the design team will be on hand to receive feedback and answer any questions. We hope you can come along and look forward to meeting you. Further information can be found online at www.millerhomesbloxham.co.uk

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InBRIEF**Firefighters rescue couple**

■ AN elderly couple were rescued by firefighters on Friday, following a kitchen blaze. Two fire crews from Banbury were called to the house in Howard Road, Banbury, at 6.25am, and rescued the two residents, with the help of a neighbour. An ambulance attended, but the couple did not need hospital treatment. Watch manager Vince Davies said the blaze could have been more serious had it not been for the house's smoke alarms. He said: "These provided early detection and alerted the home owners of the fire in their kitchen. This is a clear reminder to everyone of the importance of having working smoke alarms in their homes, and we urge people to check them once a week."

Damaged

■ A MAN broke the window of a Banbury takeaway after being refused service. He punched the window of Banbury Fried Chicken, in Middleton Road, as he walked out on Tuesday of last week, causing £500 damage. Police are now hunting for him. He is said to be white, in his early 20s, around 5ft, with short brown hair and was wearing a grey jacket and black jeans.

Call for hike in council tax to help fund social care services

Greens' plea for budget boost

GREEN councillors have called for a county-wide vote on a 3.75 per cent rise in council tax to fund social care services.

Larry Sanders, one of two Green Party county councillors, has launched a campaign to reduce £18.5m of proposed cuts to the council's social care budget.

The authority announced plans to cut the cash from its social care funds by 2017 last month, after its central Government grant was cut by 12 per cent.

As part of the draft budget, which is expected to be

By Freddie Whittaker

approved next month by the Tory-controlled council, a council tax rise of 1.99 per cent is proposed.

The rise is just shy of the two per cent referendum limit set by the Government, but Mr Sanders said people in Oxfordshire should be given the opportunity to vote on a bigger hike.

He said: "The Conservative county council budget will make life even harder for people with disabilities.

"A small increase in the council tax of about 40p a week for the average household – that is less than the price of a stamp – used sensibly could bring in tens of millions of pounds of care money for Oxfordshire residents.

"Given the stark facts about the impact of more budget cuts, we believe the basic decency and good sense of the people of Oxfordshire will win out and allow councillors to provide the money necessary to reduce the crisis in care."

Where savings will be made

THE council expects to save £3m by carrying out prevention and intervention work – such as installing technology in people's homes to reduce their need for costly care. It will also save £500,000 by changing the way it commissions care services.

Joint working with the NHS will save £1m, and

will receive extra funding of £4.3m for health services. The council will change the way it delivers services to people with learning and physical disabilities, saving £2.4m.

Income expected from increase charges for day centres, added to proposed savings to the service in the future will

amount to £500,000.

Extra pressures on the council's budget for older people will be paid for out of the existing budget, saving £3.9m the council would otherwise have to save. Other savings, including a reduction in the council's asylum seeker budget, because of decreased need, will total £2.853m.

InCOURT

Cases from magistrates courts around the county

■ **RUBEN BREYTENBACH**, 23, of Gibbs Road, Banbury, admitted driving a Ford Ka on Middleton Road, Banbury, with 56mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath – where the limit is 35mg. Disqualified from driving for 12 months, fined £250, a victim surcharge of £25 and £85 costs.

■ **SHAUN BROWN**, 27, of Grafton Lodge, Britannia Road, Banbury, admitted possessing cannabis. Fined

£75, a £20 victims' surcharge and £40 costs.

■ **LEE BENNETT**, 33, of Harrowby Road, Banbury, admitted shoplifting a dog lead, collar, harness, and toy, from Croft Pet Foods in Broad Street, Banbury. Given an 18-month conditional discharge, told to pay £30 compensation, a £15 victims' surcharge, and £50 costs.



Green county councillor Larry Sanders, who wants a council tax rise to help fund care services

The council's adult social care budget pays for essentials like home care as well as day centres, dial-a-ride schemes and other services aimed at reducing isolation.

It can also provide support, advice and much-needed equipment.

Currently the county council's share of the council tax payment for band D properties is £1,161.94. Under the Tories' proposals, this will rise to £1,184.94. A 3.75 per cent rise would take the figure up to £1,205.27.

County council cabinet member for adult services Arash

Fatemian said: "The savings in social care are about reducing the cost of care rather than the quality of the care that's being delivered. And a lot of that comes about through intervention and prevention, which saves money in the long-term."

"The council has a duty of care which is legal. This is absolute and we will not shy away from it. I don't think there is wide enough support for a referendum on a 3.75 per cent rise in council tax, a referendum would cost the county council money and I'm not aware that anybody has ever voted in a

referendum for a tax increase."

Under Government rules, any council tax increase over two per cent will automatically trigger a referendum on the rise.

The full council is due to meet to vote on the budget, which includes a total of £46m of extra cuts on top of £119m which will already have been saved by 2014.

Opposition parties are expected to present alternative budgets, and the Greens' budget will include the 3.75 per cent rise proposal – but the Tories have a large majority, so all alternative budgets are expected to fail.

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Answering birdwatch call

Family join UK twitchers to keep count of local birds

THE Akers family from Chipping Norton, were among more than 10,000 people across the county who turned twitcher last weekend for the Big Garden Birdwatch.

Now in its 34th year, Birdwatch asked people to spend an hour recording the birdlife in gardens, schools and parks, to capture a snapshot of the UK's garden bird population.

Just over 10,000 people from Oxfordshire took part last year, and more than half a million nationally. Together they counted nine million birds between them.

It was hoped even more became bird detectives last weekend, helping to provide organisers, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, with the data they need to help protect endangered species.

Fen Gerry, the regional spokesman for the RSPB said: "In the past Birdwatch has helped to highlight some dramatic declines in garden birds – house sparrow numbers have fallen by two thirds since 1979.

"Everyone who took part in Birdwatch will help us to find out more about bird numbers and distribution – and that will be the first step in helping to put

By Debbie Waite

things right." The Akers family has taken part in Birdwatch for the past five years.

Steve Akers, 57, his 47-year-old wife Sharon, and sons Rory, ten, and Louis, eight, recorded their findings early in the morning, when most birds come in to feed in their garden in The Leys, Chipping Norton.

Mr Akers, who is a Unison official, said: "I have been a bird enthusiast since I was eight and the boys now have great bird ID skills too. We enjoyed taking part in Birdwatch because we put out a lot of feed all year round. We get many varieties of birds in our garden."

He added: "It's interesting to see the trends each year – gold and greenfinches seem to be holding their own, whereas sadly, song thrushes are very rare.

"We are lucky to have a colony of house sparrows living in the uneven brickwork of our neighbour's house. But more modern buildings mean birds which once lived close to people, don't now get the nesting opportunities."



Louis Akers, eight, and his dad, Steve, who took part in the Big Garden Birdwatch

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Documentary to show what industry is really like

Bid to harvest a TV following

HENRY Crudge is hoping to beef up the image of farmers.

The 25-year-old wants to use his role in Channel 4 documentary *First Time Farmers* next week to show what the industry is really like.

The university graduate works on his father's farm near Chipping Norton, producing wheat, oilseed rapeseed and hay for racehorses.

He said: "People still have a very stereotypical opinion of the farming lifestyle, of a grumpy man with a straw in his mouth and a tweed cap on."

"This programme shows that it's nothing like that."

The production team filmed over a six-month period centring on last summer's harvest.

Mr Crudge said: "It was a great experience, but for me it was just another normal harvest, just with cameras."

"The team would come and film all day and they wouldn't get in our way, although they would occasionally ask you to repeat something."

Asked how he felt about his new-found celebrity, he said: "I live in a village where everyone knows everyone anyway, so it's not going to be too bad."

By Tom Jennings

As part of the production, Mr Crudge has had to take part in publicity photo shoots – some of which have seen him topless on the farm.

He said: "I thought why not? I wouldn't stand there naked, but other than that I really don't mind – I've got nothing to lose or hide."

Mr Crudge, who attended the Royal Agricultural College in Cirencester, will become the fifth generation to run his family's farm when he takes over.

He currently runs it with his father Peter, 55, while his mother, Sue, is full-time housewife.

Mr Crudge said: "I've worked every harvest since I was probably 13. It's something I've always done."

"Every day is different and it isn't a mundane office job – it is the best job in the world."

"I'm not doing it properly yet but my dad is getting me ready to take it over in a couple of years."

He said he did briefly consider taking a farming job elsewhere after university but did not want to leave his father working the land alone.

He added: "Farming is becoming more fashionable."

"I think people like the idea of it because you are out and about, driving big tractors and quad bikes, but I don't think most people could stick it because of the hours."

"It is hard work and you have to be dedicated to it."

Mr Crudge, who has a girlfriend, said his social life had suffered because of his job but said he tried to make time to see friends, even if it meant getting home just hours before his 7am start.

First Time Farmers, which has been created by the team behind *Made in Chelsea*, features young farmers aged 16 to early 20s.

It tells the stories of young apprentices, shepherds and slaughtermen and the first of the five-part series was screened on January 11.

The episode featuring Mr Crudge is set to air on Channel 4 on Friday, February 8.

RIGHT: Henry Crudge, who is appearing in *First Time Farmers* on Channel 4 next week



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Resident's rap for new crime policy

THAMES Valley's Police and Crime Commissioner has outlined his crime fighting priorities and targets.

But a victim of crime has hit out – saying the plan was not detailed or specific enough.

Anthony Stansfeld, a Conservative from Newbury, was elected as the region's first Police and Crime Commissioner last November.

And now he has published a Draft Police and Crime Plan for Thames Valley.

His priorities listed in the plan include cutting crime that hits the most vulnerable, increasing a visible police presence and cutting the fear of crime, and to engage with the public to build a stronger trust and confidence in the force.

He said he wanted to tackle the causes of crimes, which he said were drug and alcohol addiction.

He added that he wanted to work to better protect "isolated farming

communities" from "gangs of professional criminals".

He said: "Rural crime committed against isolated communities is endemic."

But Martin Scarrott, 47, who has twice had a charity collection box stolen from outside his home, said people should be given more detail and be told exactly what Mr Stansfeld planned to do to help victims.

He said: "We've called the police numerous times over the years about various things."

"We had one incident where there was a man outside our house who was shouting at us. We called the police, but they didn't get there before he put a plant pot through our window. He got away with it because they didn't turn up in time."

"Maybe he should be holding surgeries to find out what people actually want."

The public are being asked to give their views on the plan up until Friday, February 8.

■ Probe after man's train death

Crossing 'working correctly'

THE level crossing where a man died following a collision with a train earlier this month was working correctly at the time of the crash, an initial investigation has revealed.

Banbury man Tom Pizzey, 85, was killed when a Freightliner train hit the car he was a passenger inside at Sandy Lane, near Yarnton, on January 2.

It had been revealed that the level crossing had malfunctioned 21 times in 2012.

Network Rail said it did not believe there was a problem with the barrier, despite the previous faults.

It did not respond when asked to provide a breakdown of the 21 incidents, when they occurred, what the faults were or what action was taken.

It said cabling problems were the cause of two incidents reported by

By Mark Taylor

members of the public in November and December but did not expand on the cause.

The driver of the car involved in the crash is still in hospital and has not yet been interviewed by authorities.

British Transport Police spokesman Simon Letouze said: "Although the investigation continues into the incident, initial enquiries would suggest that the level crossing was functioning correctly.

"The driver of the vehicle remains in hospital, and clearly his full recovery is of paramount importance. Officers will, however, speak to him in due course.

"In the meantime, a file will be prepared for the Coroner's inquest into the incident due to be held at a date yet to be set at Oxfordshire Coroner's court."



Snow becomes an Egyptian canvas

EGYPTIAN pharaohs are usually associated with sand and hot temperatures, but not in Oxfordshire.

Pupils at Sibford School in Sibford Ferris, made this image of Tutankhamun in the snow, using spray paint made from food dye.

The work to paint the image took the children half an hour as they

took their history lesson outside last Thursday.

As they have been studying ancient Egypt, they also built a snow pyramid which taught them about square numbers.

Adding the finishing touches to the work were Catie Harries-Harris, seven; Frannie McClymont, eight, and Ralph Scarf, seven,

pictured. Catie said: "I like learning about Tutankhamun. It is ancient and we don't know much about it now.

"We learnt what colours his mask was and how expensive all the gold was."

Ralph added: "It was fun painting in the snow but my hands got a bit tired."

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InBRIEF

Buzzword is bees - MP

■ SIR Tony Baldry MP is among 125 MPs who have called for a "national bee action plan" to halt declining numbers of the insects.

The Conservative has backed the Friends of the Earth campaign that calls for the UK



Sir Tony Baldry

to have enough flowers and for farmers to cut chemicals. The charity says changes in agricultural practices have cut certain species by up to half.

Sir Tony said: "I am extremely concerned about the rapid decline in British bees.

"They're not only an iconic part of our countryside; they play a vital role in pollinating our crops and flowers too."

A winter warmer for chilly police

THE traditional police helmet may be an instantly recognisable sign of authority that commands respect.

But it doesn't keep chilly ears warm.

However, soon Thames Valley Police officers who are on duty in wintry conditions can wear a force-issue woolly hat.

Those on patrol or sitting in their heated vehicles won't be allowed to wear the headgear, but those stationed outside for long periods of time can adorn the knitted beanie.

It will be a standard issue black hat with the word "Police" knitted in white on the front.

PC Lisa Stanhope, Thames Valley Police Federation's head of health and safety, is credited with coming up with the idea.

She helped officers successfully lobby the force's Chief Constable, Sara Thornton, to allow the hats to become official regalia.

As yet there has been no cost attached to the new gear as the first officers to wear them are

yet to test them out – and they won't be available until at least next autumn.

Thames Valley Police Federation spokesman Graham Smith said: "It's just been approved so we can start ordering them now, and hope to have them in time for the next cold snap.

"The current hats don't provide enough protection when it's cold outside, so it should make a difference. We will have to wait and see what officers think of the new hat.

"It's something that will help officers when they are outside in the cold. It should make the job a little bit easier."

Not all officers will get the hats, only those who ask for them.

The force isn't the first in the country to allow the winter warmers, as officers at Devon and Cornwall police can wear both woolly hats and snoods.



Bikers who volunteer to help save lives

By Katriona Ormiston

A GROUP of volunteer "blood bikers" carry out life-saving work – whatever the weather.

Around 100 volunteers ferry vital supplies – like blood, plasma and donor breastmilk – to hospitals across Oxfordshire and beyond.

John Stepney is the co-ordinator of the Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire branch of Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers.

He said: "There is this public image of us as leather-clad bikers with no road manners whatsoever, but we have so many different types of people who volunteer.

"The canon of Christ Church Oxford helps out. There is a hot-air balloon operator, a magistrate, businessmen. Just all walks of life."

The bikers are called on by hospitals across the region to pick up and drop off blood needed for patients on operating tables and other medical emergencies.

Although they serve four counties, the hub of the operation is at Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital, where the blood is stored.

One of the vital medical supplies is factor eight, a blood-

clotting agent used for transfusions for patients with haemophilia.

When haemophiliacs are injured their blood fails to clot, so the blood biker's job is vital to get them the clotting agent they need in time before they lose too much blood.

A year ago, Mr Stepney was on-call and asked to deliver factor eight to Milton Keynes for two children.

The 53-year-old said: "Some people ask why we would do this. "I was on the road for four hours, but when I got home and put my feet up I just thought, my alternative was spending the time watching the omnibus of EastEnders.

"There is a great deal of responsibility. If you lose the package or drop it, you can't just get another sample.

"If it is something being taken the other way, for diagnostic tests, it sometimes takes hours for the body to produce another sample.

"So if it is a test for meningitis, you need to know straight away if it is the deadly kind."

The bikers often have to race to reach the hospital within 45 minutes of getting the emergency call.

If blood is needed further away, members of the 18 regional branches across the country will set up a relay to pass it on.

SERV is always looking for volunteers and to help with fundraising as it costs £1,500 a month just

for petrol. Riders are on call from 7pm to 6am. The demand for the service has increased hugely in recent years.

In 2009 there were 28 calls for help to the OBBN branch; in 2010 there were 603, and in

2011, roughly 1,000.

Volunteer riders must have an advanced driving qualification to take part, and either use their own bike or share a pool bike.

To find out more, go to serv.org.uk/



'Blood biker' John Stepney

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Chase away the winter blues with Banbury Operatic Society's latest offering: the dazzling, award-winning musical *Kiss Me Kate* at Wykham Theatre in Banbury Academy from February 12-16.

The original Cole Porter hit musical was a pioneering West End hit which ran for more than 1,000 performances when it was first staged in the 1950s. And, as director Janet Bishop explains, there are so many twists and turns in this show-within-a-show comedy that combines gangsters and Shakespeare, will make the production fresh for audiences of any age. "Although this is essentially a tale of thwarted love, this show is filled with great laughs and fantastic music," says Janet.

"In fact, I would put money on everybody who coming to see the show knowing at least one tune – even if they didn't realise they did!

"Banbury Operatic Society performed *Kiss Me Kate* 22 years ago – again at Wykham Theatre. However, if anyone remembers the show, they too will be in for a few

By Liz Nicholls

treats because the music since then has been updated and the show is very fresh."

Written by Porter at the height of the Jazz Age, the Tony Award-winning Best Musical *Kiss Me Kate* features a witty score of well-known numbers such as *Another Op'nin' Another Show*, *So In Love*, *Too Darn Hot* and *Brush Up Your Shakespeare*.

Banbury Operatic Society last year won the The Dorothy Lawson G&S Award for its version of *Iolanthe*, so you're in good hands.

Sharon Green makes a welcome return to choreograph the show, hot on the heels of *The Wiz*, and the society welcomes Nick Perry as musical director.

Fred Graham (played by David Hornsby, whom regulars will remember as Maurice in *Beauty and The Beast* and other leading roles with the BOS) is the producer and star of the show.

His leading lady and ex-wife, Lilli Vanessi, is played by Ann Sloan, who has taken many principal roles for the society.

Jonathan Rubery makes his

principal debut as Bill Calhoun, a compulsive gambler who is in and out of trouble, much to the annoyance of his girlfriend, Lois Lane (played by Kerry Ayres, whom regulars will remember as Belle in *Beauty and The Beast*).

Providing more than a spark of humour are the two gangsters played by Jem Turner, (LeFou in *Beauty and The Beast* and Dave Smith. The two characters arrive at the theatre to collect a debt of \$10,000, which cannot be paid unless the show goes on, despite Lilli Vanessi threatening to walk out. Will they persuade her to go on?

■ *Kiss Me Kate* is at Wykham Theatre, Banbury Academy, February 12-16, 7.30pm. Tickets are £10/£12 are now on sale online at banburyoperatic.society.co.uk or can be bought from Anker & Partner Estate Agents in High Street, Banbury.

GLAMOUR: Sarah Kennedy, Dave Smith, Heward Simpson, Ann Sloan, David Hornsby, Jem Turner, Jonathan Rubery and (front row); Gillian Purcell, Mel Austin and Emily Sloan



Music? You just can't Beat It

■ A FASCINATING collection of original songs interspersed with BBC radio interviews are presented in a unique show by singer **Julie Matthews** at The Mill Theatre tomorrow (Friday).

The material is inspired by generations of the Olympic Games and formed part of a series of Radio 2

shows called *Radio Ballads* leading to London 2012.

Matthews, one of six highly talented British musicians involved in the creation of the show, stops off at The Mill for a concert that will thrill her many fans and newcomers to her amazing voice and songwriting talent.

"The radio ballads were part of a massive year for me in 2012," said the songwriter, who also contributed to the BBC's *Radio Ballads* revival in 2006. "I was asked by the BBC, along with five other musicians, to write and record ballads all about the Olympics, inspired by hours and hours of interviews they had recorded with sports people from

Olympics from 1936 to London.

"Some included my duo partner Chris While and they were broadcast on Radio 2 in the six weeks running up to the start of the Olympics."

Radio Ballads sung by Julie Matthews, Friday, 8pm. Tickets £12 - call 01295 279002

■ *Jackson Live in Concert* in Wavendon sees long-time fan and hugely talented Ben Bowman recreate the Michael Jackson experience with his stunning rendition of all his favourite songs. Ben says "From as far into my childhood as I can

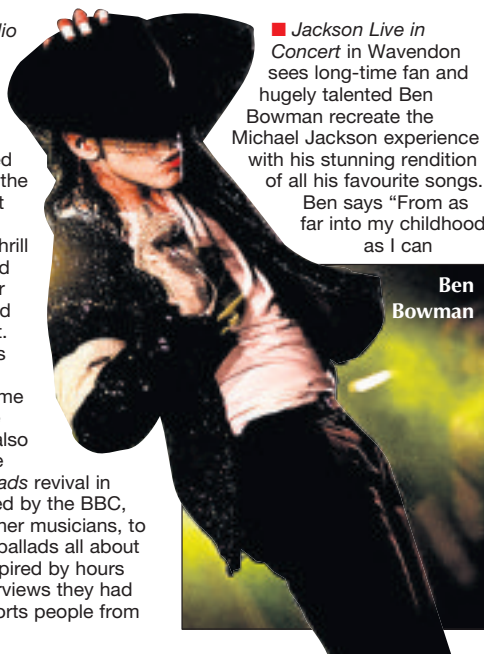


Julie Matthews

remember, I have always been obsessed with Michael Jackson. Everything about the King of Pop mesmerised and enchanted me. I used to spend hours poring over album covers, photographs, interviews, videos – even my seventh birthday party was Michael Jackson themed!"

Jackson Live in Concert features all-live vocals and music, including *Thriller*, *Beat it* and *Billie Jean*, fabulous costumes, and of course all the signature dance moves. Pure MJ!

Jackson Live In Concert is at The Stables, Wavendon on Sunday, 8pm. Tickets are £20. Call 01908 280800.



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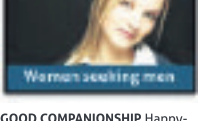
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Woman seeking man

GOOD COMPANIONS Happy-go-lucky Divorced female, 40, good sense of humour, looking for a reliable, caring man, for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136646 or send a text to 80360

SPARKS FLYING Fun, curvy, green-eyed Wiltshire brunette, 45, looking for genuine, loving guy, to share some caring times and future happiness. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 852093 or send a text to 80360

FOR HAPPINESS Upbeat Swindon female, 45, 5'4", would like to meet a man, male, to go on dates, share company and hopefully form a relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127393 or send a text to 80360

SMOOTH MOVE Slim, blue-eyed Townbridge female, 48, 5'2", GSOH, easy to get on with, enjoys nights out, walks and more, searching for an honest, active, interesting man. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109958 or send a text to 80360

RATIONAL HERE WAITING Quiet, thoughtful and sincere Wallingford woman, 48, 5'1", would like a date with an aware, intuitive gent, for a happiness, love and laughter. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136967 or send a text to 80360

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly, fun Oxfordshire divorced mum, 51, 5'7", grown up children, looking for love again and someone to share life with. Is the right man out there for me? Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 798804

SEARCHING FOR YOU Down to earth, Mauritius-born Divorced female, 51, looking for someone for a serious relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 120023 or send a text to 80360

VA VA VO VO Positive, lovely and kind-hearted woman, #4Age#, would like to meet a vibrant, self-assured male, for love and an honest future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 135186

RESTORE MY FAITH Family oriented, honest, kind, trustworthy and caring Oxford mum, 53, looking for a genuine, sincere guy, with a good sense of humour, to share good times with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 116101

SOMEONE EXACTLY LIKE YOU Caring, lovely, bubbly Bicester lady, 53, looking for a tall, kind, caring and romantic man for a lasting loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 118921 or send a text to 80360

A NEW LIFE Truthful, gracious and protective Wallingford girl, 54, 5'8", looking to find a truthful, sophisticated gent, to share and enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137882

I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT Sincere Swindon woman, 54, GSOH, fun personality, loves nights out, socialising and music, seeks a friendly bloke, to share lots of good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 104377 or send a text to 80360

SPECIAL PERSON Honest, bubbly female, 55, enjoys counselling, walking, gardening, swimming, theatre, travelling, would like to meet that special man, to enjoy the life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136810 or send a text to 80360

SIMPLE TASTES Open, honest Bampton female, 55, enjoys counselling, walking, gardening, swimming, theatre, travelling, would like to meet that special man, to enjoy the life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136810 or send a text to 80360

SHALL WE DANCE? Blonde, blue-eyed Swindon girl, 56, friendly nature, well-travelled and loyal, lover of life, searching for an active, educated man, who appreciates, food, wine and life in general. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110895

GIVE ME A CALL SOMETIME Separated, caring Devizes female, 57, genuine, loving, GSOH, likes reading, cooking, meals and cosy nights in, seeking a tall man, for friendship, leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132887 or send a text to 80360

RECIPE FOR LOVE Kind hearted, sociable Oxford lady, 57, active, caring, GSOH, enjoys rock concerts, seaside, animals and driving, searching for a warm, loving and funny gent, for company, sharing and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130132 or send a text to 80360

HEADLINE NEWS Sincere, reliable Wiltshire lady, 57, likes dogs, travelling and good conversations, seeking an honest, reliable male, for company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 124692 or send a text to 80360

MEANINGFUL TIMES Active, outgoing Townbridge female, 57, loves cinema, seaside, travelling and animals, would like to meet a man for company leading to a possible relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117215

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OPEN YOUR HEART Slim, attractive Swindon widow, 61, 5'4", enjoys walks, sports, travel, country pubs and socialising, seeking a similar male, to share interests together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 125012 or send a text to 80360

GENUINE AND CARING Oxfordshire widow, 61, 5'6", slender build, sociable, caring and well-travelled, searching for a genuine, professional guy, non-smoker, for friendship, leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 466487

SOCIABLE SORT Tall, blonde Wiltshire girl, 62, enjoys cars, walks, gardening and more, searching for a sociable man, with an active lifestyle, for a loving and lasting relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 452750

LISTEN TO YOUR HEART Happy-go-lucky Warmister female, 62, looking for a nice kind and reliable man to share good times together and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 120544

FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE... Sociable, active Witney woman, 63, GSOH, widow, attractive, likes meeting people, theatre, drinks, meals out and walking, seeking a similar man, caring and genuine, for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127066

CHATS OVER A PINT? Country woman looking to meet a loving, dark haired, slim man, I'm 64yrs old, 5'7", slim and fit, love being outside, walking and gardening. Marlborough/Wiltshire Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 112241 or send a text to 80360

JOURNEY TOGETHER Young 65yr old lady, 5'6", hazel-eyes, slim-build, likes cooking, watching movies, travelling, blowing-snow, seeking a man for a long term relationship. Bradford-On-Avon. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137358

HONEST RELATIONSHIP Non-smoking Bradford lady, 65, 5'5", slim-build, blue-eyes with a positive outlook, enjoy countryside, dancing music, theatre, seeking a gent, 65-68, to enjoy similar interest. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128404 or send a text to 80360

THE BETTER THINGS IN LIFE Divorced Swindon female, 65, 5'5", works part-time, likes walking, travelling and cooking, would like to meet a nice sociable gent, with a good lifestyle, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114628

SO HAPPY TOGETHER Loving, sincere and attractive lady, 66, cuddly, would like to meet a gent who likes country walks, meals out, social drinks and places of interest for companionship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114914

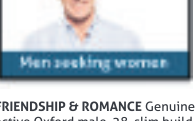
HAPPIER DAYS Kind-hearted, homely and sensitive Didcot woman, 70, would like a date with a lovable, kind-hearted guy, for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136207 or send a text to 80360

ADVENTURE AHEAD Warm, friendly Witney woman, 71, GSOH, youthful, attractive, likes dancing, walking, music, theatre, reading and meals out, seeking a tall, active and fun gentleman, for company and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123334

DOWN TO EARTH Happy-go-lucky Swindon female, young 71, loves walks, cooking, gardening, kisses, cuddles, looking for a N/S, clean-shaven man, for a loving relationship. Last call please leave contact number. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 454288

GREAT COMPANIONS Wiltshire widow, 73, likes music, theatre, travel and more, searching an easygoing gent, for companionship, friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 104917

ALWAYS HAPPY Feminine, blonde, Crippenham widow female, 73, practical, honest and genuine, seeking a nice life, with a lovely chap. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137473



Men seeking women

FRIENDSHIP & ROMANCE Genuine, active Oxford male, 28, slim build, 5'7", caring, enjoys the gym, cycling and generally keeping fit, would like to meet a similar female, honest, GSOH and fun, for friendship and love. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 122941

WE COULD BE GOOD TOGETHER Down to earth Swindon male, 37, enjoys cycling, walks, travel and lots more, seeks laid back female, for good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100773

PERFECT HARMONY Fun-loving, easygoing, tactile Witney bride, 41, 6ft, stocky build, shaven head and goatee, seeks fun loving, cheeky lady to share life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 108035 or send a text to 80360

READY TO MEET MY SOULMATE Outgoing, sociable Oxford male, 41, black, GSOH, caring, enjoys living life to the full and would like to share life with a bubbly, attractive and kind female, for a loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127095

TAKE HANDS Slim, tall Oxfordshire male, 43, N/S, musician and artist, searching for his perfect woman, to make life complete. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 108016

ENJOY GOOD COMPANY Honest male, 44, 6'3", stocky build, gosh, enjoys sports, travel, cosy times in, social drinks, seeks fun loving female, for happier times. Oxford. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101716 or send a text to 80360

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SHARE THE MOMENT Friendly, lovely and sincere Oxford gent, 44, 5'10", wants to meet a homely, sensible woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134382 or send a text to 80360

COME CLOSER Active, kind-hearted and upbeat Oxford bloke, 46, looking to find an insightful, liberal woman, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130080 or send a text to 80360

HOPE SPRINGS Eternal kind, caring, down-to-earth Thame male, 46, enjoys music, country walks, cooking, reading, films, seeking a kind, sincere, slim female, 25+. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137427 or send a text to 80360

GET TO THE GOOD TIMES Separated, laid-back Bicester guy, 50, 5'10", brown hair/blue eyes, decent build, self-employed, looking for an attractive woman. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136282 or send a text to 80360

LOVE TO HAVE A LAUGH Friendly, warm hearted Abingdon male, 50, good sense of humour, would like to meet a caring matured guy, to enjoy good times together, for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115894

UP AND UP Fun-loving Oxford male, 50, likes listening to music, watching movies, walks and nights out, looking for a nice female friend, for good times and maybe romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 875263

ACCEPT EACH OTHER Easygoing Wantage male, 51, own car, works full-time, likes most sports, would like to meet an outgoing, fun, for good times leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 135164 or send a text to 80360

TIME FOR A CHANGE Friendly, expressive and vibrant Kidlington male, 51, would like to meet a life-loving, interesting lady, to share the future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114479

ALL TO LOVE Kind and caring Oxfordshire male, 52, brown hair, green eyes, GSOH, searching for a nice, genuine girl, for friendship first, then maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 461278

ETERNAL COMPANIONSHIP Outgoing, divorced Witney male, 52, 6'6", blue eyes, nice walks, family life, seeking an interesting woman, to get to know better. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126741 or send a text to 80360

LET'S DO IT Upbeat, friendly man, 53, good sense of humour, into most things, travelling, good foods, looking for love and romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110840

NOT TO BE MISSED Spontaneous, caring, hard-working Oxford guy, 54, likes music, cooking, live bands, good wine and F1, would like to meet a simple woman, to share life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115775 or send a text to 80360

PERFECT COMPANY Practical, original and loyal Oxford based man, 54, 5'10", divorced, into sport, history and much more, would like to find a pensive, kind-hearted female, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137091 or send a text to 80360

TAKE CHARGE Bright, humorous and optimistic Banbury man, 55, would like a date with a chatty, active woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132836 or send a text to 80360

A FUTURE FILLED WITH LAUGHTER Divorced, young at heart male, 56, own house in Oxford, likes cinema, theatre and clubs, seeks caring female for happy times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 107632

NEW DAWN Fit, friendly, handy Oxford male, 56, enjoys pubs, drives and walking in all weathers, searching for an easygoing woman, to share love, laughter and good company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 135784 or send a text to 80360

CARING NATURE Dependable, informed and responsible Witney man, 58, 6'3", looking for a helpful, decent woman, to share a brighter future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115195

SHARING GOOD TIMES Upbeat Burford widower, 58, own cars, works full time, likes days in and out, countryside walks, driving, looking for a similar woman for companionship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117916 or send a text to 80360

PASSION FLOWER Young-looking Oxford 59yr old chap, 5'9", dark hair, enjoys cinema, bowling, days out and socialising, seeks loving, loyal female, for lasting relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101122 or send a text to 80360

MAKE A FRIEND Warm, romantic Bicester male, 65, searching for an interesting, active woman, for days out, friendship, meals and good company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 851123

KINDRED SPIRITS Presentable, educated chap, 66, enjoys the arts, history, places of interest, exploring towns/countryside on foot, wlm attractive, vivacious lady, for romance. Oxford. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101058

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MORE IN TIME Self-employed Witney male, 64, loves cinema, theatre, eating out and more, searching for a serious-minded lady, for a loving and supportive relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109413 or send a text to 80360

AN IDEAL PARTNER Garing, loyal, romantic, retired Chinnor chap, 64, dog love, keen golfer, eating out and cosy times in, seeking a nice lady, for company and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136451

RHYTHM OF THE HEART Nice, tidy and efficient Swindon man, 65, looking for an exciting, efficient girl, to share lasting love together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137553 or send a text to 80360

MAKE A FRIEND Warm, romantic Bicester male, 65, searching for an interesting, active woman, for days out, friendship, meals and good company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 851123

KINDRED SPIRITS Presentable, educated chap, 66, enjoys the arts, history, places of interest, exploring towns/countryside on foot, wlm attractive, vivacious lady, for romance. Oxford. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101058

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Spielberg magic brings American history to life

LINCOLN (12A, 150 mins) Drama. Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field, Tommy Lee Jones, Gordon Joseph-Levitt, David Strathairn, Lee Pace, Michael Stuhlbarg, James Spader, Hal Holbrook. Director: Steven Spielberg.

Steven Spielberg artfully tears a page from history to immortalise the efforts of the 16th president of the United States to end slavery during a turbulent period of deep division within the House of Representatives.

At a time when multiculturalism is trotted out ad nauseum by politicians as modern society's badge of honour, Lincoln is a stark reminder of the sins of the past and how far we still have to go to create a world of true equality.

Tony Kushner's eloquent script condenses the final months of the president's life into an elegiac portrait of a husband and father whose courage in the eye of a political storm tested his resolve and his marriage.

The ebb and flow of dialogue is exquisite, and potentially dense and baffling philosophies are distilled into digestible exposition so it's easy to follow the cut and thrust of arguments on both sides of the political divide.

A terrific ensemble cast is led magnificently by Daniel Day-Lewis. So often berated for grand-standing and chewing scenery, here the statuesque London-born actor is the model of restraint, internalising his statesman's maelstrom of emotions.

His performance is no less

affecting, and the physical transformation is startling, but our eyes are constantly drawn to him because of that quiet intensity in a sea of screaming, shouting brow-beaters.

A powerful prologue on blood-stained battlefields segues neatly to January 1865.

Two months have passed since Lincoln's re-election, the American Civil War rages on for a fourth year and the president's thoughts turn to the highly contentious Slavery Bill.

Secretary of State William H Seward (David Strathairn) counsels against the motion, given the current make-up of the House of Representatives.

"It's a rat's nest in there, the same gang of talentless hicks and hacks that rejected the amendment ten months back. We'll lose!"

However, Lincoln is adamant that the Bill must be passed before the end of the war and he enlists William N Bilbo (James Spader) and Colonel Robert Latham (John Hawkes) to procure votes.

"It's not illegal to bribe congressmen. They would starve otherwise," jokes Latham.

Inside the House, fervent abolitionist Thaddeus Stevens (Tommy Lee Jones) continues to rile the Democrat opposition led by Fernando Wood (Lee Pace).

Meanwhile, Lincoln has to contend with the mood swings of his emotionally fragile wife, played by Sally Field, who is so often his rock.

Lincoln is a magnificent technical achievement, distinguished by Janusz Kaminski's colour-bleached



Daniel Day-Lewis, as President Abraham Lincoln, with David Strathairn as Secretary of State, William Seward, right, and David Costabile, as Representative James Ashley, in a scene from *Lincoln*

cinematography and John Williams's haunting score. Every shot is beautifully framed, capturing every facet of Rick Carter's production design and Joanna Johnston's costumes, which evoke the era so vividly.

Admittedly, the running time is slightly long, testing our concentration and physical resolve.

Yet, as the film ends with Lincoln heading to an ill-fated performance of *Our American Cousin*, we give Spielberg's film a rousing vote of confidence.

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CakeWhat's on

Music

FRIDAY: Sun Inn, High Street, Hook Norton: Decades. Rock and glam covers duo. Free admission. 9pm. 01608 737570.

SATURDAY: White Horse, The Square, Kings Sutton Banbury: Disco. Playing all your favourite tunes. Free admission. 9pm. 01295 810843.

Theatre

The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury:

Jan 31, Blue Coupe, plus local support. Angry orphans of Blue Oyster Cult and the Alice Cooper group, out to prove something to the world with show-stopping performances and a wall shaking sound that keeps their legion of fans calling for more. 8.30pm. £15. (Standing event.)

Feb 1 Julie Matthews. In 2006, Julie was one of a handful of invited songwriters to take part in a brand new project, The BBC Radio 2 Radio Ballads. Julie wrote 14 songs for The Ballad of the Games and is

now bringing those songs, along with the recorded interviews that inspired them, to the stage. 8pm. £12.

Feb 2, Secret Police. The Secret Police are the UK's longest running and most respected tribute to The Police and are the only 'police band' endorsed by the official Police fan club. The band deliver a totally authentic show just as you would have seen The Police in their heyday playing all the great hits and some of the album classics too. Their special guests are Million Faces, who are carving an amazing reputation nationally with their originals set. Supported by Million Faces, Oxfordshire five-piece Pop/Rock band. 8.30pm. £10.

Box office: 01295 279002

The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton:

Feb 1-2, *Why The Lion Danced*. All the excitement, colour and sounds of the Chinese new year, featuring live music, song and dance. Perfect introduction to this ancient culture, for children. Fri 1.30pm, Sat

11.30am. £8.50.

Feb 1, Jo Caulfield. Stand-up comedian (Radio 4's *It's That Jo Caulfield Again*). £15, conc £13. 7.45pm.

Box office: 01608 642350.

Events

THURSDAY: Cotswold: The Gallery, The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton. Jan 31-Feb 11. An exhibition by Rupert Aker, landscape painter. 01608 642350

SATURDAY: Finnley's Day Three: Town Hall, Bridge Street, Banbury. Family fun day- charity style event. Big prize draw, candyfloss, refreshments, sweets, bottle raffle, CD's, DVD's, books, toys, tombola, games, crafts, cakes, preserves and more. 9am-4.30pm. 07795234292.

Walk (ramblers): The Church (SP447248), Steeple Barton. Start 10am. Leisurely five-mile circular via Tittenford Bridge and Barton Abbey where there may be snowdrops. Dogs on leads please. Pub stop at end. 07950388090.

CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport

New men show the way to win

A NEW-LOOK Banbury United side secured victory over Chippenham Town in the Premier Division thanks to first-half goals from Joseph N'Guessan and Kynan Isaac.

Manager Edwin Stein fielded three debutants as the Puritans cruised home.

And it was one of those new faces who put the visitors in front on the half-hour mark when a simple through ball down the middle found N'Guessan in space between the Chippenham centre-halves.

He brought the ball down excellently before stroking it home to give Banbury the lead from their first real chance.

Chippenham Tn	0
Banbury Utd	2
(n'Guessan 30, Isaac 45)	

The opener came against the run of play, as the hosts had dominated the early stages and could have taken the lead themselves when the pacy Tom Knighton got the wrong side of the defence only to see his left-footed effort palmed away by Banbury goalkeeper Warren Carter, who was also making his debut.

But after taking the lead, Banbury soon established a stranglehold on the game and Carter was barely called into action throughout the rest of the match.

Isaac added a second for

Banbury just before half-time, taking advantage of a miscommunication between Chippenham goalkeeper Ben John and defender Steve Casey to slot the ball into an empty net.

This sparked a bitter argument between John and captain Casey with the pair almost coming to blows.

Chippenham player-manager Nathan Rudge made a triple substitution at half-time in an attempt to reverse his side's ailing fortunes.

But his attempt backfired when Alex Kite was forced to leave the field midway through the half after suffering an injury in a challenge on Isaac, forcing the hosts to finish

the match with ten men.

Banbury, whose third debutant Michael Hopkins, signed from North Leigh, came on as a substitute in the 63rd minute, were rarely troubled in the second half.

Chippenham were limited to just one effort of note – a weak header from Knighton which Carter saved easily.

The win moves Banbury up two places to 13th.

Banbury Utd: Carter, Cray, Martin, Ashton, Allen, Bridges, N'Guessan (W Plowright 90), Skendi, Blossom, Isaac (Shariff 79), Lait (Hopkins 63). Subs not used: R R Plowright, Dumbleton.

Referee: P Lavelle.

Stein's salute

BANBURY United manager Edwin Stein, pictured, praised the impact of his new signings after their comfortable 2-0 win at Chippenham Town.

Goalkeeper Warren Carter and striker Joseph N'Guessan made their first starts for the club, and Michael Hopkins came off the bench after signing from North Leigh.

"I've had so many new players this season you

wouldn't believe it!" said Stein.

"Carter did a really great job in his first start for us, and it was a pleasure to see the skills that Michael Hopkins has and to unveil that for Banbury United."

Stein hinted that there might be further new arrivals at the Spencer Stadium in a turbulent season which has seen a remarkable turnover of players at the club.

He added: "I have more players that I've had a look at, but I'm happy with the squad I've got and our current mix."

"We just need to work on our consistency and competition for places is important."

"Our present first-team players know that there are players ready to come off the bench and take their place."



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Cottages at a bargain price

TWO cottages in an idyllic village setting are on the market for a little over £200,000.

The first example is The Rock, a pretty two-bedroom period cottage in Souldern.

Agents say it needs some updating, but it includes a large attic room with potential to convert into a third bedroom, subject to planning permission.

Other highlights include an inglenook fireplace in the living room and character features, such as exposed beams, throughout. It is on

By Gill Oliver

the market for £210,000.

Callow Cottage is another two-bedroom period property in the same village.

The stone-built property includes a sitting room and separate dining room, each with an open fireplace.

Both bedrooms are doubles. It is on the market for £215,000.

For those who prefer town to village life, 41 Kings End, in the heart of Bicester, offers another option.

The three-bedroom house is on the market for £239,000.

It includes a living room and kitchen with separate breakfast room.

Other plus points are an open fireplace, exposed brick, stone and timbers and courtyard gardens.

None of the three properties have onward chains.

For more information and to book a viewing, call agent Thomas Merrifield on 01869 253253 or see www.thomasmerrifield.co.uk



The Rock, at Souldern, is on the market for £210,000

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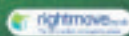
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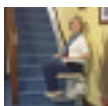
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ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19 LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

The planets line up to make it hard for you to resist the pull of change. Be careful of going to extremes with your ideas, or you could end up isolating someone who is important to you. Try to work on group plans and sleep on any important decisions. Those who leave around this time are unlikely to come back. Ring me now to hear how Saturn promises you good news financially.

0906 585 4360

A distinct lack of energy is evident which may see you deciding to cancel the very things you were looking forward to in the month ahead. Family are asking more of you than you'd like to give. Make sure you're firm in your replies to their requests or they'll keep emotionally blackmailing you. Give me a call now to hear how Jupiter can offer you progress in financial issues.

0906 585 4366

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Your powers of concentration are not as good as you'd like them to be, so make sure you write down anything of importance and back up all work on computer. Time spent with a face from the past makes you see what happened in a different light and could even prompt you to call someone you used to see or know. Ring me now to hear how romance and while lies are unavoidable in February.

0906 585 4361

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Why are you worrying that things are going slowly when you've come so far already this year? It appears from your stars that you're putting too much emphasis on what other people may think rather than how things actually are. Have faith in your judgement on Thursday and Friday. It could just change the course of your future. Call now to better understand your close ones.

0906 585 4367

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

You're finally in the good books of your close ones and this seems to be largely to do with the fact that you've impressed them with your recent mature decisions and behaviour. This phase may not last for long once the immature phase kicks in from Wednesday. Be aware of how far is too far to go with actions and words. Ring me now to hear how working long distance may promise success.

0906 585 4362

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Don't push for arguments where there need not be any. It seems you have quite a lot of steam to blow off and unless you deal with the issue you're only going to make your situation worse, not better. Use Tuesday for peace talks. The stars will be encouraging us all to be a little more truthful. Give me a call now to hear about tomorrow today.

0906 585 4368

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

With the strength the planets are giving to you there is nothing you can't achieve if you set your mind to it. Travel plans which are cancelled at this time will turn out to be a blessing in disguise. Neptune is giving you messages in your dreams, make sure you listen to them. They're the key to you realising how you really feel. Call now to hear which sign could soon be talking babies.

0906 585 4363

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

It seems that you're having problems keeping bad influences out of your life. Why is it that a sign who is usually so confident and bold is allowing themselves to be walked over in this manner? Take charge and make the effort to shape your life as you'd like it to be and not what others have bullied you into. Ring me now to hear why it's worth distating out the compliments this week.

0906 585 4369

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Education is well served and if you were thinking of learning something new or even just brushing up old skills then you have the backing of the stars. A friend is using you and, with Mercury not helping your cause, you could end up being held responsible for something you did not do. Give my starline a call now to hear why this is the year you could form a lasting business or company.

0906 585 4364

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Friends are telling you what to do when they don't even know the whole story. In fact, it's not certain that they even know half of it. Until you come clean with yourself about your situation then you won't be able to be honest with those around you. Phone calls and texts received on Friday place a new offer on the table of life. Ring now to hear whose jealousy is becoming a problem.

0906 585 4370

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Be careful not to spend money you don't have. Not only will you get yourself into unnecessary debt but you could also damage your reputation with those who trust you. News of someone from your past gives you reason to dwell on all you've been through. Don't rule out new job interviews or tests to further your career. Give me a call now to hear what surprise changes await you.

0906 585 4365

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20

The home is more important than usual and could well be the setting for some major announcements you're going to be hearing about. Contracts and the written word come to the fore now, but it could be worth your while paying to have things professionally read through. It may cost you now but it's likely to save you a fortune in the long run. Give me a call now and I'll let you a secret.

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Compact city hatch makes more sense

By David Duffy

EVEN in these straitened times, most of us, if we are honest, drive cars that deliver much more than we actually need. More power, more space and a little more luxury tend to be the order of the day.

Take a step back and analyse precisely what you need and suddenly cars that looked completely out of the question start to make a little more sense. And one of those cars might just be Citroën's C1.

On the face of it, it's easy to write the four-seater off as too small and underpowered to cope with day-to-day demands, but live with it for a while and its abilities prove impressive.

Priced from about £8,000, the C1 range — built alongside its sister vehicles the Toyota Aygo and Peugeot 107 in the Czech Republic — offers city car style, in a compact package with a large dash of fun. All latest C1s models benefit from improvements made to its surprisingly perky and superbly economical three-cylinder, 998cc 68 horsepower petrol engine.

Coupled to its kart-like ride and handling, the C1 makes for an entertaining way to travel. The engine has been re-tuned to reduce carbon dioxide emissions to just 98g/km for the manual transmission models. That means that the latest five-speed

manual C1 is exempt from the London Congestion Charge exempt and has the extra benefit of no vehicle excise duty.

Other changes include a re-styled front end, additional interior and exterior equipment, and improved comfort, thanks to revised power steering settings and changes to the suspension to improve ride comfort.

Despite being a super-compact car, the C1 has a seriously high safety rating. All models have a four-star Euro NCAP rating, anti-lock brakes, cornering stability control and twin airbags. The new model has had its exterior style perked up with a new bonnet and grille complete with Citroën's new chevron design. A new front bumper is fitted to all models, which incorporates LED running lights on upmarket models.

The top-of-the-range test model also came with front fog lights, a black grille design with chrome



SUPER COMPACT: Travel in the four-seater C1 is entertaining and far from spartan

inserts and body-coloured door mirrors and door handles.

Travel in a C1 is far from spartan, especially at the top of the range, where big-car features include superbly comfortable, perforated Alcantara and leather seats, a leather-trimmed steering wheel and gearknob, and tinted rear windows.

The VTR+, that rides on 14-inch alloy wheels, also includes the likes of air conditioning and front electric windows.

In short, a down-to-earth, honest little car which could well fill a space in many people's motoring lives.

Auto facts

Model: Citroën C1 VTR+ 1.0i manual
Price: £9,695
Insurance group: 3E
Fuel consumption (Combined): 65.7mpg
Top speed: 98mph
Length: 345.5cm/136in
Width: 163cm/64.1in
Luggage capacity: 4.9 cu ft
Fuel tank capacity: 7.7 gallons/35 litres
CO2 emissions: 99g/km
Warranty: 3 years/60,000 miles

Newcarscene

Car makers focus on low-priced models

CONSUMER confidence has been in relatively short supply, yet the car market has proved to be resilient and relatively buoyant.

Paul Everitt, chief executive of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), said: "The important September plate change market outperformed expectations and although the economic outlook remains challenging, we are starting to see a tentative return of consumer confidence as motorists explore new products and the latest fuel-efficient technologies."

That leads to the inevitable questions concerning 2013; how will it fare compared to

last year, and what will consumers be looking for? There is certainly good news coming from the car manufacturers. For one thing, the amount of diversity coming from the car manufacturers is definitely a good thing. The increased use of platform and component sharing brings a higher level of technology to cars that would ordinarily be too far down the pecking order to receive such luxuries. That also means better value for the consumer.

The other piece of good news for the car buyer is that the manufacturers are putting more effort into cars in the very lowest price brackets.

Cars such as the Dacia Sandero represent outstanding value for money, and an increasing number of offerings will appear in this segment during the coming year.

Not only does this give greater choice to buyers and make new cars accessible to a larger audience, it also promises to give the used-car market a boost thanks to the greater number of cars on the road.

It might be that the economic side of things remains in the hands of those in authority, but at least from the perspective of the car manufacturers and buyers alike, the prospects look somewhere between healthy and bright.

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■ HONDA'S Swindon-built CR-V sports utility vehicle has won the '4x4 of the year' honour from *Total 4x4 Magazine*. The judges put the CR-V up against several respected rivals, and after being picked as the best in the 'medium SUV' segment, it became a contender for the overall 'best of the best' title, which it duly won. Editor Alan Kidd said: "Seldom has a new 4x4 put such a big tick in so many boxes."

■ CONTINENTAL'S new ContiWinter Contact TS850 winter tyre has been declared the Editor's Choice 2012 by motoring magazine, *Auto Express*.

■ BRIDGE Motors, in Banbury, is running Vauxhall's '4x4x4x4' commercial vehicle offer. People who purchase any new Vauxhall commercial vehicle can take advantage of four years' zero per cent APR representative finance, four years' free servicing including routine service parts and labour and four years' breakdown assistance provided by the AA and four years' warranty.

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07830 627578

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01793 336510

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01235 751937

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01608 677202

£450

Peugeot

PEUGEOT 106

Blue 2000, Petrol, Radio, 3 dr, Mot Aug 2013, Tax end March, 83784 miles, X reg, reliable

07766 601431

£650

Vauxhall

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0

Silver, 2000, 5 spd, manual, 3dr hatchback, petrol, ins gp1, MOT June'13, tax April'13, 50+mpg, cheap to run, mechanic maintained, same owner for last 7yrs, 112k miles, Corsham.

01249 714572

£250

Volkswagen

VOLKSWAGEN POLO


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07749 009376

£1,200

Volvo

VOLVO V40




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01373 826836

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07970 967774

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1000cc to 1295cc from	£129.90	£64.95	£159.95	£72.95	£196.45	£133.70
1300cc to 1599cc from	£139.95	£69.90	£166.90	£99.98	£200.45	£146.90
1600cc to 1790cc from	£154.50	£74.95	£171.50	£97.50	£225.45	£154.90
1800cc to 2499cc from	£159.90	£79.95	£187.40	£99.98	£220.90	£157.90
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BMW 5 Series from	£171.95	£96.90	£224.95	£129.40	£273.45	£199.70
BMW 7 Series from	£210.95	£112.95	£247.60	£144.60	£308.95	£199.90
Mercedes A Class from	£171.95	£89.95	£228.95	£116.95	£253.90	£174.80
Mercedes C Class from	£171.95	£99.95	£229.95	£128.70	£258.45	£189.90
Audi A4 from	£173.95	£99.95	£231.95	£119.95	£263.45	£199.70
Audi A6 from	£181.95	£99.85	£199.60	£124.95	£297.45	£212.50
Mini (2001 on) from	£141.95	£69.95	£161.95	£84.95	£208.95	£144.40

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900cc to 995cc from	£119.95	£59.95	£141.95	£63.95	£193.90	£124.60
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04 04	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GT TDI, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows	£22	£4699
03 03	FORD FOCUS 1.8 LX TDCI, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows, Airbags	£19	£3999
03 03	CHRYSLER PT CRUISER CRD DIESEL TOURING, Candy Red, A/C, CD, Alloys, Airbag	£17	£3699

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06 55	FORD MONDEO 1.8 5 DOOR ZETEC, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Airbags, Elec Windows	£19	£3999
06 56	CHEVROLET LACETTI 1.6 SX, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys Wheels, Elec Windows, Airbags	£19	£3999
04 54	FORD MONDEO 1.8 ZETEC, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows, Airbags	£17	£3699
04 54	MITSUBISHI SPACE STAR 1.6 EQUIPPE, Dark Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Airbag, 1 Owner	£16	£3499
04 04	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 LIFE 3 DOOR, Blue, PAS, CD, Airbag, Elec Windows	£14	£2999
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01 Y	MITSUBISHI PININ 1.8 GDI ELEGANCE, Red/silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Ready For The Winter	£17	£3699
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03 03	KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 XSE, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Low Range, Gear Box, Airbags, Elec Windows	£15	£3299
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